

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A personal computer system comprising:
a plurality of different types of coordinate input devices;
a keyboard input device;
an output device for outputting a signal from each of said coordinate input devices; and
a processing unit for performing processing based on signals from said output device in accordance with an operation of each of said coordinate input devices,
wherein a single output port of said output device is shared by said coordinate input devices.

2. A personal computer system comprising:
a first input device;
a second input device, said second input device performing a detecting operation in a manner differing from said first input device;
a keyboard input device; and
an output device for converting one of an output signal from said first input device and an output signal from said second input device, or for converting both the output signals from said first input device and from said second input device and outputting the resulting signals in an

identical format, whereby said first input device and said second input device are alternately or simultaneously used.

3. A personal computer system according to claim 2, wherein said first input device outputs absolute coordinate data and/or relative coordinate data, and said second input device outputs relative coordinate data.

4. A personal computer system according to claim 2, wherein said first input device is a pad-type input device disposed closer to an operator than said keyboard input device, and said second input device is a stick-type input device disposed between keys of said keyboard input device.

5. A personal computer system comprising:

a first input device;

a second input device;

an output device for outputting operation signals from said first input device and from said second input device in an identical signal format; and

a processing unit for performing processing based on signals supplied from said output device in accordance with an operation of each of said first input device and said second input device,

wherein said output device adds identification

information to part of the signal format according to the type of input device.

6. A personal computer system according to claim 5, wherein said first input device outputs variable information on X, Y, and Z three-dimensional coordinates, and said second input device outputs variable information on X and Y two-dimensional coordinates, and wherein in using said second device, fixed information is added to a Z-information field of the signal format output from said output device.

7. A personal computer system according to claim 6, wherein said output device generates six-byte absolute coordinate data and supplies it to said processing unit in response to the variable information on the X, Y, and Z three-dimensional coordinates supplied from the first input device, and said output device converts three-byte displacement data into six-byte data in response to the variable information on the X and Y two-dimensional coordinates supplied from the second input device, and fixed information is added to a Z-information field of the converted six-byte data.

8. A personal computer system according to claim 7, wherein individual byte fields of the six-byte data supplied

from said output device to said processing unit respectively indicate the identification information, X count information, X count and button information, Y count and button information, Y count information, and Z count information, and wherein the Z-count information becomes variable in accordance with an operation of said first input device in response to the variable information supplied from said first input device, and the Z-count information becomes fixed in response to the variable information supplied from said second input device.

9. A personal computer system according to claim 5, wherein said output device comprises a switching portion for switching between a path for converting the variable information obtained from said second input device into the six-byte data and a path for outputting the variable information as three-byte data.